

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001027/25
to the Commission
Vicent Marzà Ibáñez (Verts/ALE)
(10 March 2025)**

Subject: Balance between renewable energy and territorial sustainability: measures to avoid saturation of large-scale projects in Aragon and encourage self-consumption

Aragon offers great potential for renewable energy, but the enormous pressure for the installation of large-scale wind and photovoltaic projects is destroying our landscapes (including in the regions around the Moncayo and Maestrazgo), damaging rural tourism, reducing arable land, damaging biodiversity and affecting people's health and well-being through the acoustic impact of wind turbines.

This is the result of pressure exerted by energy oligopolies to discourage generation, self-consumption and disposal of surpluses by households and SMEs. The recent European aid for the latter has been very successful, but it has fallen short, despite Europe's need to eliminate our energy dependence and the strategic vulnerability of a generation and supply system based on large-scale installations.

1. Does the Commission intend to promote mechanisms to limit the excessive concentration of huge installations in certain areas of the European Union that are already saturated, such as Aragon?
2. Does the Commission not believe that support should be increased for individuals and businesses of all kinds, as a strategic and security measure, to enable them to form the primary basis of a system of generation and self-consumption?

Submitted: 10.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(10 June 2025)**

Renewable power generation is key to lower energy prices, reinforce EU's competitiveness and energy autonomy and achieve EU's decarbonisation objectives.

Mindful of the importance of balancing energy generation with other public interests, EU legislation has established a comprehensive legal framework to fully explore synergies for land and encourage the multiple use of space.

Moreover, the EU legislative framework is also supportive of renewables small-scale projects, energy communities and self-consumption, particularly through Article 16d and 21 of the Renewables Energy Directive ⁽¹⁾ and Article 15 and 15a of the Electricity Market Directive ⁽²⁾.

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive ⁽³⁾ also includes a phased obligation to install solar energy on certain categories of buildings.

Full implementation of these provisions by Member States is urgent and should be encouraged. Member States may also develop their own initiatives to boost self-consumption, as Spain is doing through various reforms and investments under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan ⁽⁴⁾, including its REPowerEU chapter.

Highlighting this complementarity, the EU Solar Energy Strategy recognises that to meet our EU targets we need both rooftop and utility-scale solar.

It underlines how innovative forms of deployment, such as infrastructure-integrated solar, plug-in mini-solar or agrisolar systems can help mitigate land constraints.

Some of them also help to promote renewables self-consumption. To complement the strategy, the Commission is also developing recommendations and guidance for Member States in this area.

⁽¹⁾ Consolidated text: Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast).

⁽²⁾ Consolidated text: Directive (EU) 2019/944 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on common rules for the internal market for electricity and amending Directive 2012/27/EU (recast).

⁽³⁾ Directive (EU) 2024/1275 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 April 2024 on the energy performance of buildings (recast) (Text with EEA relevance).

⁽⁴⁾ Component 7 includes Reform 2 (C7.R2) on National self-consumption strategy, Reform 3 (C7.R3) on Development of energy communities and investment 1 (C7.I1) for the development of innovative renewable energies, integrated into buildings and production processes. Component 8 includes investment 3 (C8.I3) to develop new business models in the energy transition. Component 31 (REPowerEU) includes Investment 1 (C31.I1) to promote self-consumption (based on renewable energy and behind-the-meter storage) and energy communities.